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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 313

By Wilder

A RESOLUTION To honor the memory of Curtis Bentley Atchley,  
Sr. of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, The members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Curtis Bentley Atchley, Sr., the father of our most valued colleague, Senator Ben Atchley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atchley was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional, who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atchley served with acumen and alacrity for 44 years as an employee of Robert Shaw Controls and earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work and his dedication to excellence; and

WHEREAS, An imaginative entrepreneur, Mr. Atchley once purchased an old school bus and turned it into the "Yellow Jacket Diner," where his two eldest sons, Ben and Bob, served hot tamales, "full houses," hamburgers, and hot dogs; the diner "supposedly" served to keep the boys out of trouble during their high school days; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atchley also operated a grocery store on Chapman Highway, where his sons stocked shelves and learned to drive while delivering groceries at the wheel of the Atchley Grocery Store's trucks; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atchley was an active and devout member of the Immanuel Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years as a member of the Harvester Sunday School Class; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atchley was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atchley was preceded in death by his wife, Alma Wells Atchley, with whom he enjoyed loving companionship for 59 years; in addition to Senator Atchley, he was the proud parent of Bob Atchley, Ed Atchley, and Jack Atchley of Knoxville, and Blaine Atchley of Jefferson City; and

WHEREAS, He is also survived by 16 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; his sister, Nina Atchley Clifton; and loyal friend, Alvin Garner; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Atchley leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Curtis B. Atchley, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Atchley, and especially our colleague, Senator Ben Atchley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.